

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously presented) A non-woven fabric with a melange appearance and high-durability comprising:

a fiber part including at least one of a melange appearance fiber and a mixture of at least two fibers with different dyeability characteristics;

a matrix binder comprising a polyurethane including soft segments and rigid segments, the soft segments consisting of at least one polycarbonate polyol selected from the group consisting of polypentamethylenecarbonatoglycol, polyhexamethylenecarbonatoglycol and polyheptamethylenecarbonatoglycol and at least one polyester polyol selected from the group consisting of polyhexamethyleneadipateglycol, polyneopentyladipateglycol, and polycaprolactonediol, and the rigid segments consisting of urethane groups derived from the reaction of isocyanate with polyols, and ureic groups derived from the reaction between isocyanate groups and water.

2. (Original) The non-woven fabric of Claim 1 further comprising:

a felt including at least two fibers with different dyeability characteristics impregnated in the polyurethane.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently amended) The non-woven fabric of Claim 1 wherein the ratio by weight in the mixture between polycarbonate-polyol and polyester polyol is between approximately 80/20 and approximately 20/80.

5. (Previously presented) The non-woven fabric of Claim 1 wherein the isocyanate groups are selected from the group consisting of 2,4-toluenediisocyanate, 4,4'-diphenylmethane-diisocyanate, 3-isocyanatethyl 3,5-trimethylacidohexylisocyanate, and mixtures thereof.

6. (Previously presented) The non-woven fabric of Claim 1 wherein the fiber part includes fibers having a denier from between approximately 0.001 and approximately 10.

7. (Original) The non-woven fabric of Claim 6 wherein the fibers are selected from the group consisting of natural fibers, cellulose fibers and man-made fibers.

8. (Original) The non-woven fabric of Claim 6 wherein at least one of the fibers is a micro-fiber.

9. (Original) The non-woven fabric of Claim 2 wherein the fiber part includes one or more fibers that are dyed prior to formation of the felt.

10. (Previously presented) The non-woven fabric of Claim 1 wherein the fiber part comprises:

a fiber whose melange appearance is obtained by injecting one or more colorants into the fiber through the use of a needle-punching machine fitted with hollow needles.

11. (Original) The non-woven fabric of Claim 1 wherein the fiber part comprises:

a fiber whose melange appearance is obtained by means of the use of a print technology.

12. (Withdrawn) A method for preparing the non-woven fabric of Claim 1 comprising the following steps:

mixing at least two types of staples with different dyeing characteristics;

producing an intermediate felt by mechanical needle-punching;

producing an intermediate raw felt through impregnating the intermediate felt in the matrix binder; and

dyeing and finishing a resulting product.

13. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 12 further comprising the step of:

impregnating the intermediate raw felt in a second binder; and
eliminating the second binder.

14. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 12 further comprising:
dyeing a semi-finished product using needle dyeing technologies after
impregnating the felt in the matrix binder.

15. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 14 wherein the dyeing of the semi-finished product is performed using a needle-punching machine fitted with hollow needles connected to a system for dispensing coloring.

16. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 12 wherein the intermediate raw felt is treated according to a print technology.

17. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 15 wherein the needle-punching machine is fitted with of a system of hollow needles connected to a dispensing system fed by one or more dye colors.